



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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### **LOCAL STUDENTS AWARDED FOR THEIR ARTWORK ON EARTH DAY** *Winners of the 2015 “Recycle More. Waste Less.” Coloring Book Contest Announced*

Frederick, MD– The Frederick County Department of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) has announced the winners of its 2015 “Recycle More. Waste Less.” Coloring Book Contest. The contest and the announcement of the winning entries are part of the county’s recognition of Earth Day, the international awareness event for environmental issues, which occurs each year on April 22.

The Coloring Book Contest was open to all K-12 students in the county and entrants were asked to illustrate their knowledge of the “3 R’s” – reduce, reuse, recycle. 456 entries were received and judged on creativity, originality, relevance of the message conveyed, and appropriateness for use in a coloring book.

In the grades K-2 category, the winners are: first place - Breanne Vandre, Middletown Primary; second place - Julianna Gorsky, St. John Regional Catholic School; third place - Sofia Elena Mora, St. John Regional Catholic School. In the grades 3-5 category, the winners are: first place - Josephine Domen, Orchard Grove Elementary; second place - Nicolo Araya, Oakdale Elementary School; third place – Joanna Cleaver, home school. In the grades 6-8 category, the winners are: first place - Mikala “KK” Hawes, Oakdale Middle; second place – Jesús Hernandez Mejia, Ballenger Creek Middle; third place – Marissa Bennett, Oakdale Middle. In the grades 9-12 category, the winners are: first place - Tram Nguyen, Frederick High School; second place - Andi Cregan, Middletown High School; third place – Emily Woodard, Oakdale High School. Madison Blank, of Urbana Middle School, had her drawing selected for the cover of the coloring book.

“We were thrilled that this contest inspired such a large number of students to participate,” commented Recycling Program Manager, Cindy Johnson. “The entries were clever and creative, showing that the participants understood the concepts involved. It is great to know that so many young people think about the three R’s at school and at home. We commend them for doing their part!”

In addition to the prize winning entries, other students will also have their names and artwork featured in the finished coloring book compilation. Artwork used in the coloring book will also be available to view online at the DSWM Facebook page, [www.Facebook.com/FrederickRecycles](http://www.Facebook.com/FrederickRecycles). Printed coloring books will be available for free at the DSWM offices and at select local events later this spring. For more information on this and other waste reduction and recycling local programs, please visit the DWSM website at [www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/recycle](http://www.FrederickCountyMD.gov/recycle) or call 301-600-2960.

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